

### REMARKS

Independent claims 1 and 2 have been amended to delete the limitation directed to surface roughness.

The surface roughness claim limitation comes into existence after the steel is cut. See, e.g., specification page 4, line 29 (roughness of cut surface) and Example 1, page 25, line 27 to page 26, line 8 (surface roughness  $R_z$  ( $\mu\text{m}$ ) is the roughness of the surface of the steel after cutting). Therefore, applicants believe the surface roughness claim limitation in independent claims 1 and 2 to be unduly limiting on the subject matter of the present invention.

CONCLUSION

An Action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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